TRENDS

4/22/87 A3275-2

ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICAN
RAILROADS

Office of Information
and Public Affairs
50 F Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20001
(202) 639-2555

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, April 16, 1987 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended April 11 totaled an estimated 17.3 billion ton-miles, 1.0 percent above the corresponding week of 1986, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative volume for the first 15 weeks of 1987 was an estimated 251.3 billion ton-miles, down 0.2 percent from the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended April 11 totaled 390,987, up 0.9 percent from the corresponding week of last year, and 3.3 percent above the preceding week. Compared with last year, loadings were down 2.8 percent in the East but up 5.4 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week last year, 13 of the 21 major commodity groups decreased. Grain showed an increase of 8,612 cars (48.7 percent). However, coal decreased by 6,223 cars (5.5 percent). Thirteen of the 21 commodity groups decreased from the preceding week.

Piggyback

The AAR reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended April 4 totaled 100,772 trailers and/or containers, 8.5 percent above last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 14 weeks of the year was 1,333,855 trailers and/or containers, up 3.7 percent from 1986.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 4/11/87:

	Loadings in Week ended April 11, 1987		Change from Corresponding Week 1986			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	26,310	I	8,612	48.7	D	15	0.1
Other farm products	3,379	I	548	19.4	I	189	5.9
Metallic ores	17,431	I	874	5.3	I	3,535	25.4
Coal	107,658	D	6,223	5.5	I	14,738	15.9
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	14,208	D	182	1.3	I	797	5.9
Nonmetallic minerals	9,193	D	758	7.6	D	1,157	11.2
Grain mill products	10,690	I	426	4.2	D	136	1.3
Food and kindred products	10,550	D	398	3.6	D	603	5.4
Primary forest products	10,582	I	515	5.1	I	602	6.0
Lumber and wood products except furniture	8,213	I	117	1.4	D	96	1.2
Pulp, paper and allied products	12,130	D	439	3.5	D	624	4.9
Chemicals and allied products	26,193	D	1,586	5.7	D	1,182	4.3
Petroleum products	4,719	D	104	2.2	D	75	1.6
Stone, clay and glass products	10,670	I	138	1.3	I	204	1.9
Coke	4,773	D	260	5.2	D	354	6.9
Metals and products	7,970	D	1,042	11.6	D	1,395	14.9
Motor vehicles and equipment	20,714	D	1,704	7.6	I	128	0.6
Waste and scrap materials	8,611	D	266	3.0	I	39	0.5
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	2,826	D	2,567	47.6	D	12	0.4
All other carloads	74,072	I	7,646	11.5	D	2,148	2.8
LCL traffic	95	D	30	24.0	D	23	19.5
Total Cars Loaded	390,987	I	2,317	0.9	I	12,412	3.3
Corresponding week of 1986	387,670						

	1987	1986	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (15 weeks)	5,609,667	5,610,511	D 0.0
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
14 Weeks ended April 4	234.0	234.8	D 0.3
Week ended April 11	17.3	17.1	I 1.0
15 Weeks cumulative	251.3	251.9	D 0.2

#

AARt - 041687